



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

County Counsel

At its meeting held March 1, 2005, the Board took the following action:

66-B

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made the following statement:

“The United States Supreme Court has ruled in the case of Johnson v. California that the California Department of Correction’s unwritten policy of racially segregating inmates during their initial 60 days of being transferred to a new correction facility may be unconstitutional. The Court directed that the legality of this policy must be reviewed using the strict scrutiny test of the equal protection clause.

“In light of the above decision, the Sheriff’s Department and County Counsel have analyzed the Sheriff’s policies relating to placement of inmates within the Los Angeles County jail system to determine if they are constitutionally sound, or whether they should be changed. It is important for our communities to understand the nature of the current policies and how they may be affected by this ruling.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, unanimously carried the Board requested the Sheriff and County Counsel to report to the Board at the meeting of March 1, 2005, on the current methods of inmate placement within the jail system and whether the recent case of Johnson v. California will necessitate a change in current policies relating to placement of inmates in the Los Angeles County jail system.

Later in the meeting Charles M. Jackson, Chief of Correctional Services, Sheriff’s Department, made a verbal report describing the current demographic makeup and integration of inmates, guidelines for separation of inmates for reasons of safety, and policies relating to placement of inmates within the Los Angeles County jail system.

After discussion, no action was taken by the Board.

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Sheriff

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